GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:276
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2000
EXPANSION OF TERRITORIAL ARMY
SURESH RAMRAO JADHAV (PATIL)

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are considering to expand 'Territorial Army' in order to relieve regular armed forces of excessive stress caused by tackling internal strife;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of battalions proposed to be added to the present strength of Territorial Army during the current year?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) to (c): A proposal to expand the present strength of 25 Infantry Battalions of the Territorial Army by an additional six Infantry Battalions is under consideration of the Government. These six battalions would be in lieu of five Railway Engineers Regiments and two Railway Bridge Construction Companies which are no longer required.